

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2002

This is Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English on 145,725 and 145,400 MHz in Gauteng and on 7066 and 3695 kHz.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and packet bulletin boards.

In the news today:

UPDATING OF MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

ZS CALLSIGN BOOK

SPECIAL EVENT STATION TO COMMEMORATE THE SINKING OF THE BIRKENHEAD

ARRL OPPOSES PROPOSED LICENCING OF RFID S IN 70 cm BAND

Stay tuned for for more details on these and other stories.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL. Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

Now the news in detail:

SILENT KEY

ZS1ABO, PG Opperman better known as Bobby, passed away at 18:15 on Sunday 3 February 2002 after a short illness due to a neck injury. Bobby has been a member and staunch supporter of the SARL ever since he received his license.

Many radio amateurs, world wide, will remember Bobby for organising Hunting Lions In The Air in Southern Africa, he performed this function with great gusto very successfully for more than fifteen years. Our sincere condolences go to his wife Peggy, his children Tony, Natalie, Elizabeth and Claire, grand children and great grand children.

PAUSE

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

The SARL is busy updating its records with the dates when members joined, in order to give members who have been members for more than 5 years a special award some time later this year. In the Jan/Feb issue of Radio ZS a list of members whose date of joining the SARL is not available, was published. These members must please send their Callsign, Name and date of joining to QRM@intekom.co.za per email or telephonically at 021 460 3640. This voicemail is available 24 hours a day.

ZS CALLSIGN BOOK

All members of the SARL should have received their copy of the new callsign book. Please look through it carefully and report any faulty entries, omissions, silent keys, etc to Laurie ZS5DL through the National Amateur Radio Centre by letter, fax or email. Please note that the entries are not limited to members of the SARL, but include all radio amateurs who's details are known to the SARL. The SARL does not have access to the database of ICASA as this is in the hands of a private company and can only be obtained at great expense.

Your co-operation will be appreciated.

HMSS BIRKENHEAD 26 FEB 1852 - 26 FEB 2002...150 YEARS

On 26 february 2002, ZS1OAR the Overberg Amateur Radio Club, will host a special event station from Danger Point lighthouse, Gansbaai, RSA. In commemoration of the sinking of the Birkenhead on 26 Feb 1852.

A special wreath laying ceremony will take place on 26 Feb 2002 at the monument site with various officials and regiments present.

The callsign ZS1OAR/BIRKENHEAD will be used. The ZS1OAR club QSL card, depicting this area, and rubber stamped with a special Birkenhead stamp, will be issued to contacts who must QSL direct and provide a SASE. QSL direct to: ZS1OAR, P O Box 637, Gansbaai. 7220.

NOTE; DO NOT QSL VIA THE BUREAU!!!!!!

Time: start 05:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC. Freq: 7,050, 14,200, 21,200, 28,400 MHz.SSB (approx and depending on propagation predictions and conditions); grid locator: JF95PJ.

Enquiries: ZS1WC Johan, e mail wjmc@xsinet.co.za

ARRL OPPOSES PROPOSED LICENCING OF RFID S IN 70 cm BAND

ARRL officials met recently with FCC staff members as part of the League's effort to stave off a band threat on 70 cm. At issue was an applicant's plan - already tentatively agreed to by the FCC - to deploy unlicensed transient RF identification devices between 425 and 435 MHz at much higher field strengths and duty cycles than Part 15 rules now permit for such devices. RFID tags are used to track and inventory parcel shipments.

The ARRL argued in comments filed last March that the field strengths and duty cycles proposed by the applicant for its RFID tags as Part 15 "periodic radiators" were unreasonable and "would undoubtedly seriously disrupt amateur communications in one of the most popular of the Amateur Service allocations," particularly for weak-signal enthusiasts.

This is the sort of thing for which your national amateur radio society is constantly on the lookout and act in the interest of amateur radio.

A copy of the interference study undertaken by the ARRL and more information is available on the ARRL Web site “Band Threats” page <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-1005/SaviExParte.pdf>>.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION ZS100ABW

The Midlands Amateur Radio Club will be operating another in the series of special event stations during the week end of the 3rd, 4th and 5th May 2002 to commemorate the roles played by the British, Boers and brave Zulus during the Anglo Boer War of 1899–1902.

Two separate stations will be operating (mainly on phone) from Lancaster Hill, Vryheid in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa from approximately 16:00 on the Friday and closing down early on the Sunday morning when a Remembrance service will be held in recognition of those who lost their lives in the Battle of Holkrans.

The preferred bands will be 40m and 20m with 80m during the evenings depending on prevailing conditions.

All contacts will be acknowledged with our attractive QSL card.

Please QSL either via the Bureau or to Midlands Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 100220, Scottsville, 3209, South Africa direct.

We shall also be operating a final station from Spienkop—scene of one of the bloodiest battles fought to relieve Ladysmith on 31st May 2002.

Any queries can be directed to Willie Axford, ZS5WI by email to zs5wi@iafrica.com or by telephone to 035 4744667. Alternatively, you can write to either Errol Wilson or the Chairman at the above address.

For more information of an historical nature email Sean Friend at sean-friend@dorea.co.za.

CLUB NEWS

THE OAKDALE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Oakdale Amateur Radio Club, ZS1OAK, will be holding a Bring & Braai on Saturday afternoon, February 16th.

The venue is the Oakdale Sports Club from mid-day on. Light lunches are available at the club. The braai fires will be lit at around 15:00. Bring your own chops, wags, chicken and whatever. If you bring your own beverage please leave it in your car. The club has a very well stocked bar at very reasonable prices.

Bring the whole family, bathing costumes for the children and enjoy a pleasant afternoon meeting all those faces whose voices you have only heard. A mini flea market will also be held, weather permitting. This event replaces what used to be known as the “Old Timers Afternoon” at ZS1CT.

All are welcome.

The SARL News Service invites Clubs and individuals to contribute news regarding Amateur Radio to sarlnews@hotmail.com only. It will be highly appreciated if it is done in Afrikaans as well as English and send it as early in the week as possible.

SARLNEWS thanks all contributors, individuals, clubs and other organisations for contributions to this bulletin and all stations who so reliably relay the bulletins.

This bulletin was compiled by Gustav ZS6BWN, and read by.....from . . . as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts. A copy of this bulletin can be downloaded from www.sarl.org.za as well as packet bulletin boards.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21560, 9750 and 7082 kHz and 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3215 kHz. ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Senteck.

At noon on Sundays the SARL President's net is on the air on 7082 kHz.

This is ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX